

**RACE EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 1, 2022
MEETING MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER

Present: REAC members: Renni Bispham, Savanna Rovelstad, Clarissa San Diego, Frank Jacobson, Eric Stahl, Jing Fong, Olivia Hall, Eric Stahl, Deanna Martinez (remotely).
Liaison: Clarence Moriwaki

AGENDA

Clarissa moved, Jing seconded, to amend the agenda to replace Zero Emissions Pilot Project Feedback with discussion of REAC work plan. Motion passed unanimously.

No conflict of interest disclosures were submitted.

Olivia was welcomed to the committee. Olivia thanked the community voices that were heard during the appointment process.

Thank you, Deanna Martinez for your service.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Rachel Reese welcomed Olivia Hall and expressed gratitude for Deanna.

CITY COUNCIL REPORT ON ADVISORY COMMITTEES:

Deputy City Manager Ellen Schroer presented results from the city's survey of advisory committees. Five REAC members provided feedback. Members report spending between 15 and 65 hours per month on REAC work. Reported achievements include training that both REAC and staff have received/are receiving; our events, including the Juneteenth celebration; and participation in selection committees. Reported challenges include more early and effective communication and engagement with the City.

STRATEGIC WORK PLAN UPDATE:

Clarissa presented an update of the plan submitted in May. It has not yet been approved and should be updated to account for new people and new events.

Jing suggested adding department heads to the "Key Partners" component.

Proposed future subcommittees include Ethical AI & Technology.

Clarissa presented a matrix that identifies tasks by strategy, tactic, and activity with reference to status, steward, timing, budget and resource allocation|

Activities: We should consider outreach to visitors to the Island.

DCM Schroer: the city budget process starts at the end of September. It's usually keyed to the calendar year.

This seems like a plan to take REAC through 2023, maybe into 2024.

Part of the plan could be affected if the City hires an equity officer.

Clarissa: our updated events and planning budget is \$20,150. The prior submission was for \$10,900.

Council member Moriwaki praised the committee for the thorough presentation and plan, which is as complete as anything we've seen from an advisory committee.

Plan will be referred to Strategic Planning subcommittee for refinement and final presentation in October.

BAINBRIDGE READS PRESENTATION

Janna Cawrse Esarey presented an update on the BI Reads for Justice plan. The outreach committee sent materials to Savanna. They met with the City Manager this week. He is excited about the proposal and suggested giving REAC a budget to fund it.

One change: instead of a school year September to June program, the City Manager suggested a 6 month “BI Reads for Justice,” followed by one that the community votes on. They would like an advisory team that coordinates with communities of color. Meetings would be online and in person, mixed and affinity group focused.

The Book is Stamped.

City Council will be discussing at its September 13 meeting.

Referred to Events subcommittee to oversee.

HOUSING ACTION PLAN SURVEY

DCM Schroer: this survey, for the local Housing Action Plan, has been distributed to the community at large. Hoping that as many people as possible answer it. Please share with your networks.

Renni: City needs to work with community leaders to get it out there. Just emailing it out is not enough. Let’s utilize our lists.

Ellen: it’s on the website, social media, farmer’s market other channels.

SUBCOMMITTEE PROGRESS

A. Law and Policy

Eric reported that the subcommittee discussed the following items as its agenda for coming months (to be adjusted as determined by events):

1. Police/court facility – "soft" changes/art and facility name
2. Continue working with City Manager on developing race equity policy, tool kit and hiring DEI officer, and incorporating/adopting race equity policies
3. REAC membership issues: Recruiting, application and interview process, onboarding new members, "offboarding"/transitions
4. Police/community relations (including use of force policy, outreach to BIPOC communities, incident review process)
5. Contractor/WMBE issues – assuring RE considerations in future contracts
6. Liaise with affordable housing plan as needed
7. Review of BIMC

B. Events and Outreach

Clarissa presented on 2022 Indigenous People’s Day Celebration, Oct 9 or 10 at The Barn. Time tbd. The event will celebrate and honor first inhabitants of BI through educational activities.

Based on meetings with the Indopino community.

Event will feature a drum making workshop. Securing a chief from one of the local tribes to facilitate.

Will include screening of the film “Honor Thy Mother”

BARN Program Director Jess Henderson spoke. Barn is offering to donate the space. Restriction is space is limited to 60 people.

Budget is \$3405. We are asking for the \$1,500 the City has allocated for the event to the Indipino Community (which is participating) plus an additional \$1,905 from the City. Also exploring possible sponsorship.

Renni: how do we generate volunteers? Clarissa: BARN is interested and has people available.

Eric asked what the process is for requesting the funding.

DCM Schroer said she will discuss with the City Manager.

Eric moved, Olivia seconded, to request the city to allocate \$3,405, including the 1500 already allocated, for this event.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING REPORT

Deana: Olivia's appointment was approved. The Council also approved certain "hard" changes to the police/court facility.

REAC ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

--Olivia is joining Events and Outreach subcommittee and Law and Policy (as "adjunct")

--Renni: we have a lot to keep track of and need to start using the COBI Outlook calendar. Each Committee should post its meetings/events to that calendar. Send any specific requests to Eric

--Farmer's Market: Olivia volunteered for 9/10

--Joint meeting with Bremerton REAC needs to be in a physical location. We can't host on Oct. 28 DCM Schroer is checking on 10/20, or possibly 10/24 as an alternative.

--Jing asked about the status of the City race equity plan. DCM Schroer: it's getting folded into the budget but also should be synched with the updated the strategic plan. There should be one overall plan.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Renni: reminder that we have shifted to one meeting per month. We should be mindful of the length of those meetings. I would prefer meetings like tonight's where we got through everything in 90 minutes. Length should not be more than two hours.

Brief discussion on the fact we have an open position. Should we encourage a youth applicant?

ADJOURNMENT 7:30 PM

 10/6/22
Co-Chair Date